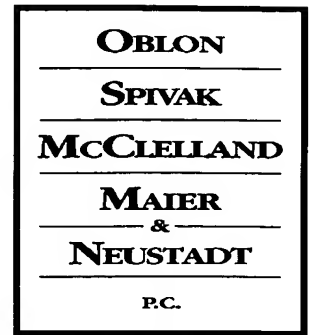




Docket No.: 250235US3

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

C. IRVIN McCLELLAND
(703) 413-3000
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RE: Application Serial No.: 10/796,179
Applicants: Shinji KOBAYASHI, et al.
Filing Date: March 10, 2004
For: LIQUID PROCESSING APPARATUS AND LIQUID
PROCESSING METHOD
Group Art Unit: 1723

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Status Request for First Office Action (in duplicate)

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.


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DOCKET NO.: 250235US3/alh



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Shinji KOBAYASHI, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/796,179

GROUP NO: 1723

FILED: March 10, 2004

FOR: LIQUID PROCESSING APPARATUS AND LIQUID PROCESSING
METHOD

FIRST OFFICE ACTION STATUS REQUEST

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Patent Office is respectfully requested to inform the undersigned of the
approximate date a first Official Action will be issued in this Application.

A duplicate of this letter is enclosed for your convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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